

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 298503

44

ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 EPA-04 COME-00 IO-13
ARA-10 NEA-10 OIC-02 EB-07 /082 R

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP?LGRANT:SRS:GCW
APPROVED BY OES/ENP:LGRANT
IO/SCT:JTREVITHICK (DRAFT)
EPA/OIA:JTHOMPSON (DRAFT)
COMMERCE;EWILCZYNSKI

----- 047483

P R 081848Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 298503

NAIROBI FOR NOZIGLIA; PARIS FOR SCIATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, EIND, UNEP

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 16-18 REVIEW OF UNEP INDUSTRY PROGRAM

BEGIN SUMMARY. USG HAS SERIOUS DOUBTS AS TO WISDOM OF CONTINUING UNEP INDUSTRY SEMINARS AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED. REASONS FOR MISGIVINGS SPELLED OUT BELOW. ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD CONTACT PARTICIPANTS FROM HOST COUNTRY, OUTLINE US VIEWS AND SUGGEST THE DESIRABILITY OF TAKING COMMON LINE IF HOST GOVERNMENT AGREES. END SUMMARY.

1. USREP (LINDSEY GRANT, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND POPULATION AFFAIRS) EXPECTS TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS, COUCHED IN SOMEWHAT MORE DIPLOMATIC TERMS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 298503

A. UNEP INDUSTRY PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AS PRESENTLY STATED CALL FOR FUNDAMENTAL RETHINKING AND RESTRUCTURING OF INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. EFFORT TO PROVIDE A MEANINGFUL CONCEPTUAL BASIS FOR SUCH A RESTRUCTURING WOULD TAX UNEP RESOURCES EVEN IF IT WERE TO DEVOTE MOST OF ITS ENERGIES TO THAT TASK AND IS FAR BEYOND CAPABILITY OF SMALL STAFF PRESENTLY ASSIGNED TO INDUSTRY PROGRAM. WE BELIEVE OBJECTIVES SHOULD BE MORE NARROWLY AND CLEARLY DEFINED. THE PRINCIPAL END USERS OF THE PROGRAM'S PRODUCT SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED AND THE OBJECTIVES RELATED TO THEIR SPECIFIC NEEDS.

B. PRESENT SEMINAR FORMAT DOES NOT LEND ITSELF TO DEVELOPMENT OF MEANINGFUL GUIDELINES AS TO STEPS INDUSTRY SHOULD TAKE TO MINIMIZE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS. IT IS UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT BRIEF, FORMAL MEETINGS CAN GET MUCH BEYOND BROAD GENERALIZATIONS, OR THAT NATIONAL AUTHORITIES WILL GIVE MUCH WEIGHT TO RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH DO NOT REFLECT AN EXHAUSTIVE AND DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF THE PARTICULAR FACTORS GOVERNING THE INDUSTRY IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY. THE RESULT HAS BEEN THAT SEMINARS HAVE TENDED TO BECOME CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN INDUSTRY REPS AND GOVERNMENT REGULATORS, WITHOUT OPPORTUNITY FOR SERIOUS EFFORT TO FIND COMPROMISES AND SOLUTIONS. WE ARE ENCOUNTERING INCREASING RESISTANCE FROM BOTH US GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND US INDUSTRY REPS TO EXPENDITURE OF EFFORT TO PREPARE MATERIALS FOR SEMINARS WHICH DO NOT APPEAR TO PRODUCE USEABLE RESULTS.

C. IF INTENT OF UNEP IS TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED BY SECRETARIAT AS RESULT OF SEMINARS TO GOVERNING COUNCIL FOR ENDORSEMENT, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT PROBLEM WOULD SIMPLY BE ELEVATED TO A HIGHER LEVEL, AND THAT GOVERNING COUNCIL FIND ITSELF LOCKED IN DEBATE WHEREIN PURSUIT OF CONSENSUS WOULD PROBABLY LEAD TO BLAND AND USELESS GUIDELINES.

D. IF UNEP LEADERSHIP BELIEVES THAT CERTAIN SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OF INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION ARE SO PRESSING AS TO DEMAND A PRIORITY EFFORT, WE ASSUME SOME FORMAT WILL NEED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 298503

TO BE EVOLVED WHICH PERMITS DETAILED AND EXPERT STUDY OF SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROVIDES FOR AN INEVITABLE PERIOD OF HAMMERING OUT DIFFERENCES. WE HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE OF THIS SORT IN OECD WHICH SUGGESTS THAT EXHAUSTIVE WORK IS REQUIRED EVEN TO DEVELOP LIMITED AND SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TOWARD WHICH PARTICIPATING NATIONS FEEL SOME SENSE OF COMMITMENT.

E. WE HAVE OURSELVES TRIED TO DEVELOP SOME POSITIVE PROPOSALS AS TO MEANINGFUL WORK FOR THE UNEP INDUSTRY PROGRAM AND CONFESS THAT WE HAVE NOT BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL. THE ONLY THOUGHT WHICH MERITS PASSING ON IS THAT THE INDUSTRY PROGRAM SHOULD SOMEHOW BE MORE RELEVANT TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SHOULD HELP THEM TO AVOID ENVIRONMENTAL MISTAKES MADE BY THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES. ONE INDUSTRY REP HAS SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF OFFERING TECHNICAL ADVICE ON ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES TO LDCE WHICH REQUEST IT. THIS MIGHT BE A USEFUL SERVICE, AND THE INDUSTRY PROGRAM COULD ACT AS AN AGENT IN PUTTING LDCE IN TOUCH WITH POTENTIAL INDUSTRY SOURCES OF TECHNICAL GUIDANCE. THERE MAY ALSO BE SOME USEFUL POSSIBILITIES INVOLVING UNEP ENVIRONMENTAL INPUT INTO APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES OF UNIDO, ILO, AND PERHAPS OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.

F. WE HOPE THAT UNEP ITSELF WILL EXAMINE THE INDUSTRY PROGRAM AND HAVE RECOMMENDATIONS BOTH AS TO OBJECTIVES AND THE MEANS TO ACHIEVE THEM, AT THE DECEMBER 16-18 MEETING. FYI WE HAVE ALREADY MADE THIS SUGGESTION TO UNEP. END FYI. WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH AN EXAMINATION IS NECESSARY BEFORE UNEP PROCEEDS TO ;SCHEDULE SEMINARS CONCERNING INDUSTRIES NOT ALREADY PROGRAMMED. WE HOPE THAT OTHER COUNTRIES, AND PARTICULARLY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WILL HAVE SUGGESTIONS AS TO THE DIRECTION THE PROGRAM MIGHT TAKE.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE US VIEWS ON INDUSTRY PROGRAM KNOWN TO OFFICIALS LISTED BELOW, INDICATING THAT WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THEM AT DEC. 16-18 MEETING IN EFFORT TO GIVE UNEP INDUSTRY PROGRAM MORE SPECIFIC AND USEFUL FOCUS. TELE-UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 298503

GRAMS REPORTING REACTIONS SHOULD BE SENT INFO PARIS ATTENTION SCIATT.

3. OFFICIALS TO BE APPROACHED ARE: AUSTRALIA - H. J. HIGGS, DIRECTOR GENERAL, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT; CANADA - PETER BIRD, DIRECTOR GENERAL, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT; SWEDEN - THOMAS PALME, MFA; UK - ANTHONY FAIRCLOUGH, DIRECTOR, CENTRAL UNIT ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT.

4. FOR NAIROBI: REQUEST YOU DISCUSS US VIEWS WITH UNEP ASST. EXDIR MUNRO, WHO WE UNDERSTAND WILL CHAIR MEETING, AND INDICATE US HOPES REVIEW WILL PRODUCE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXDIR TOLBA TO REPORT TO GC-V. ROBINSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLLUTION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE298503
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ENP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760454-0023
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761261/aaaacapd.tel
Line Count: 169
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <06 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DECEMBER 16-18 REVIEW OF UNEP INDUSTRY PROGRAM BEGIN SUMMARY. USG HAS SERIOUS DOUBTS AS TO WISDOM OF CON- TINUING UNEP INDUSTRY SEMINARS AS PRESENTLY CONSTI
TAGS: SENV, EIND, AS, UNEP
To: CANBERRA LONDON NAIROBI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006